

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8775

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2589

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, XF

SUBJ: SC DEBATE ON ME: WHERE WE STAND NOW

1. ZAYYAT'S DECISION TO COME TO NEW YORK JULY 17 DIRECTLY FROM PARIS, RATHER THAN RETURNING TO CAIRO FOR CONSULTATIONS, HAS DIMINISHED HOPES OF USING SYG ANNOUNCEMENT TO VISIT AREA EITHER TO AVOID NEXT ROUND OF SC DEBATE OR TO HAVE SC PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT. WE AGREE WITH CAIRO'S 2136 THAT ZAYYAT PROBABLY HAD THIS IN MIND. ALSO, EARLY REPORTS ON ZAYYAT'S TALKS IN PARIS INDICATED HE TOOK HARD LINE ON NEED FOR SC RES.

2. SITUATION HERE IS PRESENTLY MURKY BUT FOLLOWING GENERAL OUTLINE OF SCENARIO FOR THIS WEEK SEEMS PLAUSIBLE. ZAYYAT IS LIKELY TO CONSULT IN DEPTH IN FIRST INSTANCE WITH NON-ALIGNED REPS AND SETTLE UPON OPTIMUM DRAFT RES WHICH HE, AND THEY, KNOW CANNOT BE ADOPTED. AT THAT POINT IN TIME, ZAYYAT WILL PROBABLY MEET WITH UK/FRENCH AND WILL, WITH MINIMUM OF FUSS, BE WILLING TO AGREE TO SUFFICIENT CHANGES IN DRAFT TO MAKE IT ACCEPTABLE TO THEM. HE MAY ALSO TRY TO BARGAIN FOR UK/FRENCH
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CO-SPONSORSHIP AND WILL WANT THEM "TO SELL" REVISED DRAFT TO

AUSTRIANS AND AUSTRALIANS.

3. THIS COULD BE CRUCIAL POINT FOR US IN EARLY NEGOTIATIONS. TI WILL BE IMPORTANT THAT BRITISH ADVISE ZAYYAT THAT ANY RES FULLY SATISFACTORY TO EGYPT CANNOT RECEIVE SC APPROVAL--IN VIEW US VETO--AND THAT CONSENSUS PROCEDURE HOLDS OUT BEST HOPE FOR AGREED SC ACTION. WE CAN SPECULATE THAT ZAYYAT WILL AT FIRST OBJECT AS DID MEGUID IN MEETING WITH US (USUN 2582 NOTAL), BUT WILL RELUCTANTLY SUGGEST BRITISH PUT IDEAS FOR CONSENSUS ON PAPER. CURRENT BRITISH INSTRUCTIONS WOULD NOT PERMIT THEM TO DO SO AND THEY WOULD PROBABLY WANT SOME INDICATION THAT WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO TRY TO WORK OUT WITH THEM AGREED CONSENSUS STATEMENT BEFORE THEY SOUGHT FONOFF GUIDANCE. IN ABSENCE OF SUCH INDICATION, UK WILL PROBABLY SIT BACK, REFUSE TO CO-SPONSOR RES IN ORDER SIDESTEP CONFRONTATION WITH US, AND VOTE FOR REVISED RES IF IT PUSHED TO VOTE.

4. IN ADDITION TO BRITISH ACTIONS (SIR COLIN CROWE WILL RETURN TO NEW YORK JULY 19 TO LEAD DEL), SYG COULD PLAY SIGNIFICANT MODERATING ROLE. HAVING ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO VISIT AREA, HE WILL WANT SC TO DO AS LITTLE DAMAGE AS POSSIBLE AND WILL NOT WANT HIS TRIP TAKE PLACE IN WAKE OF US VETO. ALSO, THERE ARE INDICATIONS HE WANTS TO GO TO AREA AS UNFETTERED AS POSSIBLE BY SC RESTRICTIONS. HE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY GET THIS VIEW OVER TO ZAYYAT AND WE SHALL ENCOURAGE HIM TO DO SO.

5. IN SUM, AT THIS EARLY STAGE THERE APPEARS TO BE SLIGHTLY LESS THAT 50/50 CHANCE OF HAVING SC CONCLUDE WITH CONSENSUS. HOWEVER, IF CONSENSUS PROCEDURE CAN BE SET IN TRAIN, TEXT WILL HAVE TO GO SOMEWHAT BEYOND OUR TWO POINTS. AND CLOSE UK/US COOPERATION WILL BE ESSENTIAL. WE STILL HAVE ROOM FOR MANEUVER AND, AT LEAST FOR SEVERAL DAYS, THERE IS NO NEED FOR US TO DEPART FROM OUR CURRENT LINE.

6. THIS OPTIMUM OUTCOME WILL NOT COME ABOUT EASILY AND WE SHOULD EXPECT ZAYYAT TO BARGAIN HARD AND AT LEAST TAKE US TO BRINK OF VETO. NAME OF GAME HERE REMAINS TO ISOLATE US IN SC AND ATTEMPT TO FORCE CONCESSIONS FROM US--PARTICULARLY ON "TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY" IN ONE GUISE OR ANOTHER. HAVING GAINED SOME SLIGHT MOVEMENT FROM US IN FIRST STAGE OF DEBATE IN FORM OF OUT SPEECH, CONFIDENTIAL

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ZAYYAT WILL WANT TO SEE HOW MUCH THE MARKET WILL BEAR. FOR EXAMPLE, WE WOULD EXPECT UNACCEPTABLE RES TO BE TABLED AT SOME POINT. THERE IS DEFINITE POSSIBILITY AS WELL THAT EGYPTIANS WILL IN FACT PUT US TO TEST BY HAVING RES PUT TO VOTE. IF VETO CAST, SC COULD, THEY MAY BELIEVE, STILL REVERT TO CONSENSUS WHICH WOULD GIVE THEM "SOMETHING" AND GIVE BLESSING TO SYG. EGYPTIAN FIRST SEC HAS ALLUDED TO THIS POSSIBLE SCENARIO IN CHAT WITH BRITISH MISOFF. WE BELIEVE BEST ANTIDOTE TO THIS KIND OF REASONING, IF

IT DEVELOPS, IS TO INDICATE THAT, IF US FORCED INTO POSITION OF
VETOING, WE WILL HAVE NO INTEREST WHATSOEVER IN PROCEEDING
AT THAT TIME TO CONSENSUS PROCEDURE.

7. DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS INVITED.

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